USDA SPECIFICATION FOR CHARACTERISTICS OF CATTLE ELIGIBLE FOR APPROVED BRANDED BEEF PROGRAMS CLAIMING WAGYU INFLUENCE

1. SCOPE

This specification sets forth the requirements for live cattle from which carcasses can be derived for certification in approved branded beef programs claiming Wagyu influence. Cattle may qualify for the breed influence specification of these branded beef programs by meeting the Genotype requirement specified below.

2. REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 **Genotype** Cattle eligible for Wagyu influence certified beef programs must have positive identification (e.g., ear tags, tattoos, brands) and be traceable to provable (e.g., registration papers) Wagyu parentage. Qualifying cattle must be traceable to one registered parent (Fullblood or Purebred), two registered percentage or recorded parents, two registered grandparents (Fullblood or Purebred), or one registered Terminal Cross sire. The registration definitions of Fullblood, Purebred, Percentage, Recorded, and Terminal Cross, can be viewed at www.wagyu.org. For an animal to qualify as Wagyu, subsequently allowing the meat from the animal to be eligible to claim Wagyu influence, the animal must be an offspring of:
 - 2.1.1 A registered sire of at least 15/16 Wagyu bloodlines (i.e., Fullblood or Purebred);
 - 2.1.2 A registered dam of at least 15/16 Wagyu bloodlines (i.e., Fullblood or Purebred);
 - 2.1.3 Two registered grandparents of at least 15/16 Wagyu bloodlines (i.e., Fullblood or Purebred):
 - 2.1.4 A registered Percentage or Recorded Wagyu sire mated to a registered Percentage or Recorded Wagyu dam, as long as the offspring has the same minimum percentage of Wagyu bloodlines as if using a 15/16 Wagyu registered sire on a commercial dam; or
 - 2.1.5 A registered Terminal Cross sire.

3. VERIFICATION

3.1 Genotype. Compliance with genotype requirements shall be determined and controlled through a quality management program approved and monitored by the Livestock and Seed Program.